

# DEUSOP03 – SIM Card Acquisition

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## 1. Scope

- 1.1. This standard operating procedure is utilized for the acquisition of a SIM card. This procedure is usually done in conjunction with the DEUSOP02 – Mobile Device Acquisition.

## 2. Background

- 2.1. To establish the practices for documenting the examination of evidence to conform to the requirements of the Department of Forensic Sciences (DFS) Digital Evidence Unit *Quality Assurance Manual*, the accreditation standards under ISO/IEC 17025:2017, and any supplemental standards.

## 3. Safety

- 3.1. If necessary due to condition of evidence received (e.g. hazardous and/or biological substances), wear appropriate personal protective equipment (e.g., lab coat, gloves, mask, eye protection), when carrying out standard operating procedures.
- 3.2. Refer to DEUSOP01 – Handling Digital Evidence for additional precautions and requirements when examining evidence items

## 4. Materials Required

- 4.1. Forensic examination workstation; forensic software; media storage; cable kits associated with each forensic suite (including SIM card adapters, write blockers, charging kits); digital camera.

## **5. Standards and Controls**

- 5.1. Not applicable.

## **6. Calibration**

- 6.1. Not applicable.

## **7. Procedures**

- 7.1. Record/Document the uniquely identifiable information of the SIM card (e.g. provider, ICCID) on DEUF01 Mobile Device Acquisition.
- 7.2. Place SIM card in reader/adaptor to be read by forensic tool for acquisition.
- 7.3. Acquire the data from the SIM card according to the forensic acquisition software instructions. If there are multiple partitions on the card, ensure that all partitions are acquired, if possible, or document that all partitions were not acquired.
- 7.4. If required for a mobile device acquisition, clone the SIM card.
- 7.5. Create two copies of the original evidence: a best evidence copy and a working copy. Ensure working copy of the device is on DEUNet, in the correct case folder. The working copy should be found in the "Evidence" folder inside a folder labeled with the appropriate evidence identification number (e.g., Item 006). The best evidence copy should be saved to appropriate storage media (CD, DVD, USB drive, etc.), marking it appropriately with the DFS Case number for DEU storage. Enter the Best Evidence copy into LIMS under the appropriate case number.
- 7.6. Refer to DEUSOP07 – Analysis, Interpretation and Reporting of Results.

## **8. Sampling**

- 8.1. Not applicable.

## **9. Calculations**

- 9.1. Not applicable.

## 10. Uncertainty of Measurement

10.1. Not applicable.

## 11. Limitations

11.1. Due to damage or other factors, some or all of the above examinations might not be possible. It is at the discretion of the examiner as to what examinations are necessary and if they should be conducted.

11.2. It may be necessary to conduct multiple examinations utilizing different equipment and acquisition methods.

## 12. Documentation

12.1. DEUF01 Mobile Device Acquisition

12.2. DEUSOP01 – Handling Digital Evidence

12.3. DEUSOP02 – Mobile Device Acquisition

12.4. DEUSOP07 – Analysis, Interpretation and Reporting of Results

## 13. References

13.1. Digital Evidence Unit Quality Assurance Manual (Current Version).

13.2. DFS Departmental Operations Manuals (Current Versions).

13.3. Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) Laboratory Operations Manuals (Current Versions).

13.4. Digital Evidence Unit Laboratory Operations Manuals (Current Versions).

13.5. SWGDE Best Practices for Mobile Phone Forensics (11/02/2013).